

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The specification is amended by the present response to correct minor grammatical and idiomatic informalities. The changes made to the specification are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter.

Claims 33-64 are pending in this application. Claims 1-32 are canceled by the present response without prejudice and new Claims 33-64 are presented for examination. New Claims 33-64 correspond to respective Claims 1-32 but clarify features recited therein, as discussed in further detail below.

Claims 1-2, 9-10, 16-17, 23, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. patent application publication 2001/0014836 A1 to Tamaki et al. (herein "Tamaki"). Claims 3-8, 11-15, 18-22, 24-27, and 29-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Tamaki in view of U.S. patent 5,539,652 to Tegethoff.

Addressing the above-noted rejections, those rejections are traversed by the present response.

Applicants initially note new Claims 33-64 are written to clarify features recited in original claims 1-32. Specifically, new independent claim 33 corresponds to original independent claim 1, but new independent claim 33 clarifies operations for each element recited therein.

As recited in new independent claim 33, a system for creating and/or editing a structured parts list includes a structured parts list information storage configured to store structured parts list information on components including a plurality of parts, and to output the structured parts list information based on input retrieval information. That subject matter is fully supported by the original specification for example in the Resource DB 1 shown in

Figure 1 and in steps S1 and S2 in Figure 4. According to features noted above, input retrieval information results in the output of structured parts list information. Further, as recited in new independent claim 33, a parts information storage stores parts information on a plurality of parts and outputs parts information corresponding to the structured parts list information. That feature is fully supported for example by the Approved Parts DB 2 in Figure 1 and in step S3 in figure 4.

As further recited in new independent claim 33, a parts information list creating/editing device retrieves parts information on respective parts stored in the structured parts list information storage based on the input retrieval information, and creates a parts information list using the correspond parts information output from the parts information storage. That subject matter is fully supported for example by the Resource Parts List Creating/Editing Unit 3 in Figure 1 and in step S4 in Figure 4.

Further, a structured parts information list creating/editing device creates updated structured parts list information based on the parts information list created by the parts information creating/editing device, and stores the updated structured parts list information in a memory for subsequent access. That subject matter is fully supported for example in the Resource Parts List Creating/Editing Unit 3 and storage unit 6 in Figure 1 and in steps S5-S7 in Figure 4 of the present specification.

In such ways, new independent claim 33 clarifies several features in original independent claim 1 with respect to information stored, creation of a parts information list, and creation and storing of an updated structured parts list information. The other new independent claims are written to recite similar features as in new independent claim 33 noted above. Such features are believed to also clearly distinguish over the applied art.

The outstanding Office Action cites as the primary reference with respect to the claimed features teachings in Tamaki, and particularly at paragraphs [0117]-[0122].

However, in that respect applicants submit the teachings in Tamaki differ from the claims as written.

More particularly, the noted paragraphs in Tamaki are directed to a production system that can access a parts list storage section 2 for storing parts list information and a parts stock storage section 4 for indicating a stock of parts. Tamaki goes on to note the use of a data storage unit 10, a superfluous parts adjusting unit 112, and a deficient parts adjusting unit 111. However, such teachings in Tamaki merely disclose an operation that can ensure the desired parts are in stock.

Applicants respectfully submit the teachings in Tamaki do not fully meet the limitations now clarified in new claims 33-64. More specifically, no teachings in Tamaki are directed to storing both structured parts list information and parts information. Tamaki further does not disclose or suggest initially creating a parts information list based on the stored structured parts list information and the stored parts information. Tamaki further does not disclose or suggest creating an updated structured parts list information that is subsequently stored.

In general Tamaki is not at all directed to a system for creating and/or editing structured parts list information. Instead Tamaki is directed to a manufacturing system that can ensure that a list of required parts is adequately stocked, and determining whether any parts are deficient or superfluous. Such a structure in Tamaki differs from the claims as currently written as noted above.

Moreover, no teachings in Tegethoff can overcome the above-noted deficiencies in Tamaki, nor are the teachings in Tegethoff directed to such features as noted above.

In such ways, applicants respectfully submit new claims 33-64 patentably distinguish over the combination of teachings of Tamaki in view of Tegethoff.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

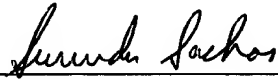
Respectfully submitted,

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